(8) There are no inputs regarding extremist outfits with foreign links operating in Kerala. However, a close vigil is being maintained in this regard.

Fire in Yamuna Pushta slums

3428. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a devastating fire gutted hundreds of slums on the Yamuna Pushta on the night of 3rd April last;

(b) if so, the number of slums destroyed, number of those who lost their lives in the blaze, those who were seriously injured and those who were rendered homeless as a result thereof;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the next of kin of the deceased and to those injured and the rate thereof; and

(d) the action taken to rehabilitate those rendered homeless?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) 1576 jhuggies were destroyed in the fire which broke out in the night of 3rd April, 2006 in the jhuggi clusters at Thokar No.8, Chungi Pushta, Delhi. Five persons lost their lives, five persons were injured and all the jhuggi dwellers were rendered homeless. The Government of NCT of Delhi has sanctioned ex-gratia@Rs.1 lakh each in four cases of death of major and Rs 50,000 in one case of death of a minor. In addition, ex-gratia at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per jhuggi has been paid to 1576 jhuggi dwellers.

(d) There is no scheme for rehabilitation pf the persons rendered homeless due to fire. However, the Govemment of NCT of Delhi had provided temporary shelters in the form of tents, made arrangements for mobile dispensary and supply of potable water for the affected people after the fire incident.

Sophisticated arms with Naxalites

3429. SHRIAMAR SINGH:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists are now using sophisticated weapons like INSAS and AK 47 rifles and explosives to fight security forces;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment about the number of armed naxalites and arms and ammunition acquired by them and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the country wherefrom they had procured these arms and what is ^a&ernment's reaction thereto; and

(d) whether Government have formulated any policy to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The naxal groups are reported to have looted sophisticated weapons including some INSAS and AK 47 rifles from the security forces. They continue to use lEDs/landmine blasts to kill civilians and security forces.

(b) As per available information, the present strength of armed naxalite cadres is about 7200 and their arms holding is estimated to be about 5450.

(c) There are not reports to suggest that Indian naxal groups are getting arms from abroad.

(d) The Government has been pursuing a multi-pronged approach to address the problem on political, security and development fronts in a coordinated manner.

Deployment of Hi-Tech surveillance weapons on borders

3430. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has approved a proposal for deployment of hi-tech surveillance weapons on the international borders;

(b) if so, whether Ministry plans to install global positioning system sets in all the vehicles carrying Central Security Forces engaged in operation to maintain internal security;